

Message Text

SECRET

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41

ACTION SS-25

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R 141456Z APR 76
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2037
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

S E C R E T CAIRO 5030

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR EG UR
SUBJECT: SADAT MESSAGE TO BREZHNEV

1. DURING MEETING WITH CODELS MATHIAS/EAGLETON APRIL 14, PRESIDENT SADAT SAID THAT DURING HIS TRIP TO EUROPE HE HAD SENT A MESSAGE TO BREZHNEV STATING THAT USSR SHOULD BE PREPARED TO ACCEPT EGYPT AS IT NOW IS. MESSAGE SAID IF SOVIETS PREPARED TO STOP CAMPAIGN AGAINST EGYPT, EGYPT TOO WILL STOP. HOWEVER, MESSAGE MADE CLEAR THAT THERE IS NO GOING BACK TO PRE-TREATY ABROGATION DAYS. SADAT DESCRIBED HIS MESSAGE AS "TOP SECRET", BUT WANTED PRSIDENT FORD AND THE SECRETARY TO BE ADVISED OF IT.

2. PRESIDENT WENT ON TO SAY THAT DURING HIS ABSENCE THERE HAD BEEN SLOW-DOWN BY SOVIET TECHNICIANS AT HELWAN IRON AND STEEL COMPLEX AND EGYPTIAN MANAGER HAD SENT FIVE OF THEM OUT OF COUNTRY. EVEN BEFORE BEING AWARE OF THIS, SADAT SAID HE HAD ARRANGED FOR USE OF ITALIAN AND AUSTRIAN STEEL EXPERTS AND DELEGATION FROM LARGE ITALIAN CORPORATION WOULD BE ARRIVING WITHIN ONE WEEK TO EXAMINE SITUATION AT HELWAN AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS. SADAT SAID HE WAS PREPARED TO OBTAIN WHATEVER MACHINERY AND TECHNICIANS NEEDED TO INCREASE PRODUCTIVITY. PRESIDENT SAID HE INTENDED TO SEND ALL SOVIET EXPERTS HOME. (COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THIS STATEMENT MADE IN CONTEXT OF HELWAN, PRESIDENT COULD CONCEIVABLY HAVE MEANT SOVIET
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TECHNICIANS IN OTHER AREAS AS WELL.)

3. SADAT THEN REFERRED TO DISCUSSIONS HE HAD HAD WITH RAYMOND MARON OF FLORIDA TO OBTAIN ONE-HALF MILLION TONS OF COKING COAL FROM US. HE SAID POLAND HAS RENEWED ITS AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE COKING COAL, BUT POLAND NOW SPEARHEADING PROPAGANDA ATTACK AGAINST EGYPT AND HE HAD NO CONFIDENCE CONTRACT WOULD BE HONORED.

4. IN DISCUSSION OF SOVIET ACTIVITIES IN SOUTH YEMEN, SADAT SAID HE HAD BEEN INFORMED BY PDRY AMBASSADOR JUST PRIOR TO HIS TRIP THAT SOVIETS REQUESTING BASES THERE. SADAT HAD DISCOURAGED GRANTING OF BASE RIGHTS SAYING THAT HIS POLICY AIMED AT SAUDI-PDRY RAPPROACHMENT WAS WORKING. PRESIDENT REQUESTED THAT AMBASSADOR EILTS SEND MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY URGING THAT US SHIP 30,000 TO 50,000 TONS OF WHEAT TO PDRY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, THRWOT
NZSAJRRCXNEZTIZLNJ
HZUBQBTXGADIRECTLY. SADAT THOUGHT THIS WOULD HAVE BENEFICIAL IMPACT AT THIS TIME.
EILTS

NOTE BY OC/T: PARA 4, CAIRO 5030 AS RECEIVED. CORRECTION TO FOLLOW.

SECRET

NNN

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